

MAIZE GENETICS COOPERATION

NEWS LETTER

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Department of Plant Breeding
Cornell University
Ithaca, N. Y.

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MAIZE GENETICS COÖPERATION
DEPARTMENT OF PLANT BREEDING
CORNELL UNIVERSITY
ITHACA, NEW YORK

October 5, 1932

To Corn Geneticists :-

Enclosed with this is a report of the meeting of corn geneticists held at Ithaca at the time of the Genetics Congress and a report of a committee provided for at that meeting.

In accordance with the action taken by the whole group and by the committee, it is requested that, as soon as convenient, you send to the undersigned a small quantity of seed of any stocks which you think may be useful to other workers now or which should be maintained for future use. As these lots of seed are received, a record of them will be made and later sent to all of you so that you may know what is available. As an illustration of combinations of genes such as should be available for distribution, a list of types now in our possession at Cornell is given below. You should not fail to send material even tho it duplicates stocks in this list

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. lg-gl ₂ -b-v ₄ | 7. lg g a ₁ -na-ts ₄ |
| 2. Bn-ra-v ₅ | 8. p-(Ts ₂ ts ₂)-(Ff)-(Br br)-an |
| 3. Bn-gl ₁ -v ₅ | 9. A ₁ -na-cr gl ₁ -v ₅ ts ₂ -f ₁ Y-Pl |
| 4. y-Pl-al | 10. a ₁ j B-lg Y-Pl C r ^r pr |
| 5. a ₁ P sh wx lg f ₁ | 11. P-br-f-an |
| 6. A B Pl lg sh wx y | 12. P-br-f-brn ₂ |

A limited supply of trisomic seed is available for the b-lg, a-na, pr-v₂, Y-Pl, ra-gl₁, j, c-wx and r-g linkage groups. We shall be glad to supply samples of this seed to the different individuals charged with the responsibility of the various groups. If the demand is not too great we shall try to supply all requests for trisomic seed.

If your work requires some unusual set-up or if you want better material of certain types than you now have, please indicate your needs at once. These requests will then be circulated from this office. As an illustration of what is in mind here, Emerson wants an early maturing stock involving green-striped. He also desires the combination adherent-anther ear.

M. M. Rhoades, Sec'y

Report of a meeting held during the Genetics Congress on
August 26th by those interested in corn genetics

- M. M. Rhoades -

The meeting was called to order by Dr. R. A. Emerson.
Approximately 45 individuals were present.

The following resolutions were discussed and favorably acted upon:-

1. That the dropping of the second letter in bi-literal symbols to form a subscript be condemned as confusing and unsatisfactory.
2. That some place be designated as a 'clearing house' to assist in the assigning of appropriate names and symbols for characters and genes. Cornell was chosen as the institution where the records will be kept and help given in the assigning of symbols. An example of how this 'clearing house' may be expected to function is as follows:- Two individuals, A and B, are working on glossy seedlings. A reports he has 5 and B reports he has 4 new glossy seedlings. A will then be assigned from gl_4 to gl_8 and B will be assigned from gl_9 to gl_{12} . This should avoid the confusion that arises when two investigators use the same symbols for different genes.
3. That a repository be formed for the storing and disseminating of new genes and of desirable multiple factor combinations, and that a list of such genes and combinations be furnished those interested from time to time.
4. That the geneticists refrain from designating the linkage groups by numbers until the cytologists agree to the size sequence of the different members of the haploid set.
5. That a committee be appointed by Dr. Emerson to consider the problems connected with the maintenance of a central seed repository. The report of the committee follows:-

In accordance with the action noted above a committee was appointed consisting of Brink, Jones, Mangelsdorf, Stadler, and Emerson (chairman). The committee met and took action as follows:-

1. The genetics group at Cornell, with M. M. Rhoades in charge, is to act as custodian of these stocks.
2. The custodian is to receive from the several workers seed of any stocks involving new characters considered by the finder as worth saving and certainly any such characters the linkage of which is known, also particularly useful combinations of genes in the several groups, etc.

3. The custodian will furnish those interested a list of the stocks received.

4. He will distribute on request small lots of particular stocks to workers having need of them.

5. The custodian will see that viable seed of these stocks is provided at least every three or four years by those charged with growing them.

6. The finder of a new character is expected to maintain the stock or to notify the custodian that he can not do so. Those assuming responsibility for particular groups will maintain stocks involving all the genes of those groups and will endeavor to build up desirable combinations of genes of the particular groups.

7. The following assignment of groups was made by the committee:-

Group 1.	P-br	.....	Emerson
Group 2.	B-lg	.....	Beadle
Group 3.	a ₁ -Rg	.....	Brink
Group 4.	su-Tu	.....	Jones
Group 5.	pr-v ₂	.....	Burnham
Group 6.	Y-Pl	.....	Stadler
Group 7.	gl ₁ -ra	.....	Jenkins
Group 8.	j	.....	Sprague
Group 9.	c-wx	.....	Eyster
Group 10.	R-g ₁	.....	Lindstrom

Any of the above who cannot assume or continue responsibility for the group assigned him is to notify the custodian at once. It is to be understood that anyone may begin or continue work with any group whether or not it has been assigned to him. The purpose is not so much to prevent duplication as to insure that no group is neglected. It is expected, however, that when two or more are interested in the same group, they will work in close cooperation!

R. A. Emerson (chairman)